In Human Nature

A NOTE: This preaching was originally written to be given just before the November 2017 election, so some of its introduction mentions the election. However, they are minor elements, and the piece is about the behavior of the Church, not politicians. The piece was rejected because of its controversial subject matter, but like the rest of what I write, I put it out there anyway.

I'm extremely honored and humbled to be able to speak at this pro-life gathering, before so many dedicated saints who witness for life on our street, and in many other ways. I have learned so much over the years through being alongside other brothers in Messiah in this movement. This is a momentous time, as I know many of you recognize, not just because of the upcoming elections, but because of what appears to be an all-out war against the faith of Christ and a time of terrible judgment upon our nation and our culture, one which has scoffed at God for long enough and will now have to drink it up. It is also an all-out war on the Church, not just from without in the form of laws which seek to silence her, but from epidemic faithlessness and complete denial of major doctrines of the faith from within, what I believe is fairly called a shipwreck, and the Church is being judged too. Many of you wonder if things will ever get better, or if there is still a chance for mercy, at least for some, if mercy is even worth praying for. It is good for us to weep.

You know one of the great aims of the anti-Christ culture of America is its attack on gender. We have seen a complete disregard for both the ROLES of men and women as well as the BIOLOGY of men and women. When a populace is fine with placing men in with women in their private quarters, even the places where they undress, it is more than just a dangerous act, one which could place a woman in danger, but is an attack on the woman's dignity, her purity, what she represents in Christian teaching and culture. It shows no respect for protecting her or for regarding her dignity. It invites in the impure, the lewd, and even worse, the viewing of woman as nothing more than another animal, or the other sex like man. When we know that she is the bearer of life, and the holy image of the Church.

This ought to bring into focus the true heart of the enemy which we battle. It attacks not only the sex, but human nature itself. Man does not want to live with his nature anymore, just as

many refuse to live with their God-given sex. Man wants to throw it off as if it were not precious and unspeakably valuable. However, we know better than this. Christians know better because we have the Word of God.

If I could present all I have to say today with a few words from Holy Scripture, it would be these:

And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being. (Genesis 2:7)

and these: So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. (Genesis 1:27)

The Word of God teaches us that God created human nature. He breathed into Adam the breath of life and made him a living soul. He also created the sex difference within human nature. That nature we all bear is in the image of God and in His likeness. That is the word of the Lord. God speaking to us. We can trust in it.

Not only that, but our Savior took on human nature in delivering us from condemnation, in redeeming us from sin. He came as man. He did not come as an android. He did not come as an apparition. He did not come as one of the sacrificial animals, such as a lamb, goat or ox to be raised and then killed. He came as MAN. The Bible even explicitly tells us the reason for this in Hebrews 2 just in case we weren't clear on it. He came as man because (listen): **inasmuch as the children** (that's mankind) **partake of the flesh and blood**, **HE Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who has the power of death that is the devil, and set free those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.**

God came in the flesh to liberate us. To atone for us. He participated in this humanity that you can see, and touch and feel; the passages tells us **IN EVERY WAY He had to be made like His brethren that He might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God**. And let me remind you of one thing everyone here who cares about life: Jesus lives in the flesh right now, in HUMAN NATURE at the right hand of the Power in heaven. He is the perfect light of God united with human nature as we speak. We are His children. We are united with Him. We LOVE our human nature.

Please remember how Jesus showed Himself to his disciples at His rising, and let them see that He was real and not an apparition:

For His soul was not left in Hades, nor did His flesh see corruption. (Acts 2:31)

And He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? 39 "See My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself; touch Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." (Luke 24:38-39)

Our Savior whom we partake of is man. He sanctified the physical, the body, the flesh. That is the nature He took on to save us and that is the nature He bears now as He intercedes for us and will have in the future as He returns here for His Bride.

So when we look at our condition today, with God's creation under attack, a world in which words like <u>man, woman, husband, wife, son, daughter, family</u> are treated as unwanted things, or meaningless things, we must know that God and His creation are in the sights of Satan. The image of God in us. Moreover, while I know some here would long to hear expounding which is more specific to the life of the unborn child, expounding which speaks directly to the mass murder of abortion, I am sorry, but I believe the subject of respect for man, woman, husband, wife, son, daughter, family, human nature still have MUCH to do with the unborn. It has much to do with respecting them as well as protecting them, those smallest of us, who according to God should be born to a loving mother in marital union with a loving husband who are united for life. The marriage and the family is a picture in miniature of the salvation vessel, according to God (Ephesians 5:22-32). It is the vessel which protects and raises the unborn. So I believe as I preach on God's creation, and what His word says about it, that I defend the unborn as well.

Moreover, I know some of people want to hear about ways that a future leader might pass new laws to protect the unborn. Or how a future leader might at least give us hope in ending abortion or in saving an entire civilization from collapse, one which is bent on literally setting world records in immoral depravity and worship of self. But I can only give to you what my faith and the Holy Spirit lead me to give, which is to proclaim the need for the Body of Messiah to repent of its own evils against God and nature, the need to start living according to its faith. The time is ripe to turn around and obey God in our own communities, the very **StONES Cry Out** for it, for us to repent rather than castigate the nation for its evils. The time is now for us to set an example in repentance, and to receive the blessings that faithfulness and obedience to God produce. They are not as far away as they look.

Many states and culture warriors are still battling to defend a crucial truth of human nature: a simple respect for the male and female sex. Respect for biological gender. Christians claim they desire the male and female sex to be respected as such and not changed. They want the state to respect their faith. they want to be able to walk into a bathroom safely. Yet allow me to quote from Romans chapter 2: you are inexcusable, O man, whoever you are who judge, for in whatever you judge another you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things... And do you think this, O man, you who judge those practicing such things, and doing the same, that you will escape the judgment of God? I have to ask then brothers, do you who judge those who disrespect gender ALSO respect gender yourselves? Or do you think you can escape the judgment of God? This extremely gender-bent culture we have been living in did not get that way in a vacuum. It got that way in the context of a Church which shamelessly ignored gender roles and gender distinctions itself. As just one example, the Holy Bible instructs the woman to be quiet in her spirit, care for the home, bear children and obey her husband (1 Timothy 2:9-16, 1 Peter 3:1-6, Titus 2:4-5, 1 Timothy 5:14). That's simply what it teaches. These are clear didactic verses. It says NOTHING about careerism, independence or barreling into combat. It's just not there. It gives clear teachings about women and instructions uniquely for women. A Church which has been ignoring them for many years has got to repent. It cannot have a strong voice on gender without repentance. It's got to stop now.

Moreover, the Word of God tells us that men and women are not to even look alike. Tell that to Bruce Jenner. They are to have distinction in hair and distinction in dress (1 Corinthians 11:14, Deuteronomy 22:5). This is important when we speak of the horror of normalized transsexuals and transvestites; when we speak of wanting to keep mutilated men out of women's bathrooms for safety or for purity or for dignity. Because frankly, if you looked at some of the members in local churches, you wouldn't even have any idea which bathroom they used anyway. You would have to guess. Because men are going out of the way to look feminine, and women are going out of the way to look masculine. That is against what the Word of God teaches. It is unholy and ungodly, brethren. Who knows what toilet they need? It has to stop. And people can complain about frank preaching like this all they like, but it does not change the fact that when *the Church is in rebellion*, and in hypocrisy, it needs to hear the truth and it needs to repent. That means you stop doing what you're doing, you turn around, and you do the right thing instead. If you're involved in blending gender, you need to stop right now.

Women and men are also given differing ROLES in the Church. They are not the same. Yet as we speak countless Protestants have already abandoned these roles completely, and Catholics are pushing for it, and have compromised already in various areas. Some people can't even name a parish that isn't run by women. That is its OWN kind of attack on human nature. Men are to be the leaders and the teachers in the Church (1 Timothy 2:11-12, 1 Timothy 3:1-13, 1 Corinthians 14:34-35). One who does not respect male leadership can have little voice in speaking about gender in the greater society. If you as a Christian want to keep men out of women's toilets, then you as a Christian can keep women out of men's pulpits, and similar teaching roles. It is ridiculous to protest one, and then to practice the other. To repeat the words of Romans 2: you are inexcusable, O man, whoever you are who judge, for in whatever you judge another you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things.

In fact the incredible unholiness which has come from the Church, so shamelessly, so rebelliously, so eager to silence the messengers who tried to warn against it, makes the Church's battle against Satan an impotent one. Truly vain. The Body of Messiah is weakened, fearful and lost. We live in constant hypocrisy. Christians still become up in arms when they see some revolting pop singer crawl along the ceiling in her underwear, being as lewd as possible, gyrating to some satanic song. Yet when we turn and look at Christians, we see they have their females decked out little more modestly than this pop singer. How can such a Church speak of respecting women or protecting them when it has its own *lewdness and immodesty on full* display? You can hardly walk by a Christian or Catholic school without getting a good look at the ladies in what Christians not long ago would have called the attire of a harlot. This is wicked. The Bible teaches the principle of modesty (1 Tim 2:9, 1 Peter 3:3-4). Those passages are specifically aimed toward women by the way. And while many make it sound difficult to be modest, it's not really that hard to figure out. It's not. To begin with, we are fairly close to large numbers of traditional Mennonites. They have a beautiful example of Christian modesty for men and women. Not only that, but even if you don't want to take an example of purity from Anabaptists, all you have to do is go to a fairly formal office environment, or a school which has a uniform, and look at the men. You will see that THE MEN in those environments have no trouble not showing off their bodies day after day. It's that simple. And since we have such a Catholic gathering here, I have to mention that monks and nuns have had a very good standard for many centuries. It's not that hard to respect the Word of God. To respect modesty. The Church needs to turn around put on some clothes. It is completely off the rails.

You know we cannot speak about respect for the sex differences and for human nature without speaking about the family AS A WHOLE. For how can a chosen people (and that's who the Church is), disgusted with recent embrace of marriages based upon the perversion sodomy, such an unspeakable mockery of God and all that is good, continue to ignore God's teachings on marriage themselves? For these teachings are life-giving truths. Marriage is an expression of the salvation vessel, and a means of raising up children in Messiah and sanctifying them (1 Corinthians 7:14). Yet we can lecture NO ONE on traditional marriage. Because biblical marriage is not just between a man and a woman, it is ALSO a covenant for life. The man and the women are one flesh, as God made Adam and Eve (Mark 10:7-8), and no man has the power to separate them, only death separates them. God designed that marriage around who we are and He designed that around the very nature that He made us with, He made it a vessel which supports and sustains us according to our human nature. The chosen people of the Church simply cannot claim to support marriage when they also practice divorce and remarriage, what the Bible and the Savior Himself call adultery (Mark 10:11-2 etc.). There are indeed a few souls who have recognized their own grave need to repent of this adultery, souls who entered a remarriage of adultery and later recognized their sin. They made a vow to live as brother and sister, no longer in adultery as husband and wife. That is faithfulness. That is being committed to marriage. That is being obedient to God. That is repentance. Unless believers are prepared to accept the teachings of God on this and unless they are willing to take the radical step these couples have taken to live in celibacy, they cannot speak but mutely and vainly about morality. We cannot speak about marriage, family, man, woman, children, human nature. We MUST repent. We must recognize that marriage, according to our God and Savior, is a union for life.

I know many of you are dedicated and even long-time pro-life servants. You have made sacrifices to help save children. You know that not much could be more connected with abortion than moral impurity. With people who desire sexual pleasure without any consequences. With people who desire fornication or adultery. The results are frequently diseases and baby-killing. Yet a Church which desires this nation to restore some semblance of decency, some semblance of a moral compass, has got to <u>strive for moral purity herself without fear of being unpopular</u> or being called a legalist or worse. Treating fornication like some tiny sin, when it frequently leads to death, disease and abortion, simply is not possible. Moreover, leaving young people in environments full of all kinds of sinful indulgence is truly suicide to a life of moral purity. We cannot throw together throngs of youth, without a Christian chaperone, to indulge themselves in pleasure-seeking of all varieties. You don't have to be a rocket scientist to figure out what will happen. We need to have holy lives. We need to **not be afraid of**

being different. We need to be clear in setting ourselves apart from certain social activities and setting clear lines for our children. We need to be unafraid about separating men and women when the situation calls for it, such as in housing. Yet if we want to *go with the cultural flow so we won't get laughed at*, we will continue to end up in the sewer of impurity which now infects our communal soul. So where is our heart at? The culture or our God?

As we survey this all-out attack on the male and the female as God made them, we can see the incredible disrespect for not only God's Word, but for NATURAL LAW. Here also it is WE who need to repent most urgently, for the assault on nature and sex came not with promoting transsexuals or rashly forcing men into women's bathrooms. It came with a Church which decided to wholesale pump itself full of contraceptives, which is by itself a great attack on God's creation. Not only is contraception linked to adultery, divorce, fornication and health risks, but it is also clearly against nature. For if there is something UNNATURAL about shooting a man full of estrogen so that he actually grows breasts, then there is equally something unnatural about pumping a woman full of chemicals, so that she has no fertility; so that her womb is a barren desert, a graveyard; so that her collaboration with God in bringing forth life is disregarded and destroyed. The Church must stop this now. It needs to get off of the contraception. You know, so little can be said against the horror of abortion, a purpose which unites us here today in this group, when one is filling women with chemicals which themselves cause early term abortions, ones which intentionally thin the lining of the uterus, creating a little Hiroshima in the intended place of safety made by God for a child. This is satanic. And more to the point in our current situation, it is a gross disregard for the woman's gender and human nature, for fertility is a central pillar of it. One CANNOT respect a woman's nature while destroying her fertility. May the Holy Spirit have mercy on us and allow us to feel true grief over our sins. Please give us the power to repent. Holy God, empower your people to serve you.

I know that I have presented a great deal to you today. I know some prefer to hear more directly about the pro-life cause. Again I tell you, in order to explain myself, that turning from our sins to respect gender, to respect morality, to respect our nature, has much to do with protecting the little child in the womb. For when we respect <u>man, woman, husband, wife, family, son, daughter, human nature</u>, we protect the child brethren. Moreover, there is an emergency going on in the current collapse of the faith, and I am compelled to speak out strongly on these subjects for that reason. The Church cannot continue on as it is and still be the Church.

So I say again, if you are involved in disrespecting gender or human nature yourself, you must repent. If you have entered into a union which God calls adultery, recognize your sin and repent. Do it now. Take a vow to live celibately as brother and sister and stop the sinning. If you are involved in blending gender, trying to *make the man into the woman or the woman into the man*, making them take on the same roles, making them look the same, making them try to act the same, you must repent. That is the Word of God. Stop what you are doing, now. If you practice contraception, defying nature, defying the woman's God-given fertility, end this anti-life practice and welcome the children that Almighty God gives you in sex. That's what it is made for. If you are involved in disrespecting woman by showing off her body, attracting attention to it, you must repent now. **Stop it**. Look online for some good modesty shops and plan out a new wardrobe over the coming year. And if it is your superiors who are demanding that you wear sluttish clothes, be a conscientious objector, and wear modest clothes instead. <u>Do not obey unjust rules</u>. You will not only look different, but feel different, and you will attract a lot less unwanted attention, and a lot less danger, when you dress in this godly way.

Finally, I want to thank everyone who has come here today. I want to thank you for keeping your hearts on God and on the respect for human life. You know there exists in countless churches in the country people who make sure you will NEVER hear preaching like this. Who make sure that prophetic calls are silenced, and that the people who make them do not have a place in the Church. They DO NOT want these truths told. But guess what? The censors didn't win this time. The censors must have fouled up real good today. And I want you to please meditate and pray on the things which I have spoken to you, as your humble servant. I also want to thank God for providing me this opportunity to speak to you, through His abundant grace, and through His faithful servant ______, who has been such a vessel of His light, here in _______ pro-life and elsewhere.

I know what I have preached today sounds like a terribly difficult mission, and in a sense it is. The calling of God is great. His ways are perfect. In another sense it is not. And I want to encourage you that you all have the resources and power given to you to live as God called us to live, including in the family and in the roles of men and women. Jesus **sanctified this walk** we have in human nature. He bore burdens with us. He shed tears with us. He ate. He had fellowship. He suffered. Real men and women lived with Him, talked with Him, touched Him, ate with Him. And when Jesus rose from the grave it was in human nature too, defeating death and bringing His immortal presence to our entire lives when we live it in Him. So do not think we are too weak for this walk of being a holy nation, a chosen people. Jesus has not changed brethren. He was tempted with all temptations and He resisted for our sake and won. He is still victorious in heaven, brothers. And he reigns in human nature.

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